



HIS EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT MANUEL A. ROXAS

— UPON WHOSE SHOULDERS FALL TODAY THE WEIGHTY PROBLEMS OF GUIDING THE NATION TO THE PATH OF ULTIMATE SECURITY, PEACE, GENERAL WELFARE AND PROSPERITY.

PROGRAM

I

REMARKS by the Master of Ceremonies, Hon. JOSE FIGUERAS, Adviser of the
NATIONAL COMMISSION OF LABOR AND PEASANTS

1. Labor March by the Band.
2. Speech by Mr. AURELIO INTERNAS, Acting Chairman of the NATIONAL COMMISSION OF LABOR AND PEASANTS.
3. Song — "SA KABUKIRAN" — by Miss NATY MUÑOZ.
4. Speech by Mrs. BEATRIZ P. RONQUILLO, President of the WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.
5. Speech by Hon. PEDRO MAGSALIN, Secretary of Labor.
6. Vocal Solo — "BALITAO" — By Miss DELY MAGPAYO.
7. Message of His Excellency, President MANUEL A. ROXAS.
8. Presentation of Gift to Senate President JOSE AVELINO — by Col. ARTEMIO NABOR, (FLAS). Acting Executive Secretary of the NATIONAL COMMISSION OF LABOR AND PEASANT, accompanied by Atty. BALTAZAR VILLANUEVA, Acting Chairman of the NATIONAL LABOR UNION (NLU) Mr. HUGO RETAGA, President of the NATIONAL WORKER'S BROTHERHOOD, Mr. VICENTE CABRERA—President Committee 3, UOEF, Mr. MAXIMO ESTRELLA — Secretary UOEF, Mr. NICOLAS CRUZ — Treasurer UOEF and Mr. RODOLFO CASTRO — Gen. Delegate UOEF.
9. Vocal Solo — "KUNDIMAN".
10. Introduction of the Guest of Honor — by Mr. PEDRO FERNANDEZ, General President of the UNION DE OBREROS ESTIVADORES DE FILIPINAS (UOEF).
11. Address by the Guest of Honor: The Honorable JOSE AVELINO, President of the Senate.

II

DANCE

MESSAGE

The social mission of every progressive democratic government is not merely to serve as a mediator between capital and labor but to seek a just balance and equality by actively helping the weaker side. That has always been a fundamental objective of this administration, which is the natural heir and executor of the great Quezonian tradition of social justice.

From the very start, our President has sponsored and enforced such measures as the 70-30 division of the crop for the benefit of the peasants and the limitations on rentals and prices for the benefit of the workers. Through skillful and far-sighted diplomacy he has also secured the distribution of millions upon millions of pesos to aid the masses in recovering from the ravages of war.

Some false friends of labor would lead the country to chaos by defying the law. We on the other hand believe that if a law is bad or unfair, it should be changed, not broken. You can be certain that the Liberal Party will always work, within the law, to help labor. Nothing will stop or can stop its pro-labor policy.

As a former Secretary of Labor before the war and as a friend of labor throughout my public career, I can assure you of my own steadfast sympathy and active help. I am on your side.

JOSE AVELINO
President of the Senate.

MESSAGE

One of the gravest evils in modern society is the economic inequity that exists between the fortunate few who possess excessive wealth and the proletarian millions who are virtually destitute. Both industrial and agricultural workers need better living conditions. Ample sufficiency is the crying need of the working classes. To this end, Capital and Government can and should combine efforts to enable the workingman to acquire by skill and thrift a moderate ownership.

In this respect, the government has taken the initiative in readjusting ownership with a view to the common welfare and the uplift of the masses. It has concluded negotiations for the purchase of landed estates for distribution and resale at cost to propertyless tenants. I invite Capital to follow this example set by the government. The sooner owner is readjusted by either Government or Capital so as to meet the demands of the common good the earlier will we prevent abuses that may eventually lead to the destruction of Capital itself.

On the other hand, the industrial and the agricultural worker must bear in mind that there also exist responsibilities and duties concomitant to his class in society. To lose sight of this fact will lead to chaos and confusion. The worker has duties to perform and responsibilities to shoulder which constitute his share in the relations between Capital and Labor.

I perfectly agree with Labor that the present-day scale of wages is altogether not in keeping with the high cost of living. But I cannot over-emphasize the need to consider the condition of any particular business and of its owner when settling the scale of wages. It is unjust to demand wages so high that the employer can not grant them without ruin to his business. It is not only unjust but in the long run, it will prove more harmful than beneficial to the laborer who, after all, will prosper only in proportion to the condition of his employer's business.

These are days that call for closer cooperation between Labor, Capital, and Government, my friends. These are days that call for sacrifice for the common good. We are marching along the road to rehabilitation and reconstruction of our ruined economy and industry. We cannot afford to let unrestrained emotions halt the national progress. I urge both Capital and Labor to cooperate more and to avoid letting individual benefit supersede the benefit of the community.

Manila, Sept. 20, 1947.

Speaker EUGENIO PEREZ

Manila, Sept. 25, 1947

MESSAGE

It is gratifying to see the National Commission of Labor and Peasants again in action. One can recall the hope it excited before the war — the hope for a unified labor movement in the Philippines, which was dimmed but did not die during the enemy occupation.

We find that hope revived, in the conditions of our post-war life, demanding even greater urgency towards realization. Labor itself realizes its need for a strong and unified movement. By division Labor not only denies itself the strength that unity gives; in fighting each other rival labor factions dissipate their scattered strength.

There is a higher public interest in a unified labor movement. The split in the ranks of labor is a constant threat to industrial peace. We have seen evidences of this in the AFL-CIO conflicts in the United States. We have our own history, comparatively insignificant but pointedly instructive, of harmful dissensions within the labor movement. Rivalry between unions, each demanding exclusive bargaining, leads to many a work stoppage that hinders the flow of production and essential services.

It is essentially through a unified movement that labor can attain to a sane and healthy quality in its direction. It can help establish well-defined standards in employment conditions instead of the variety arising from the different and often unpredictable courses pursued by different unions. If a voice can be found whereby Labor can speak authoritatively for all within its ranks, we may expect that contract negotiations will be conducted on a higher level, with greater mutual respect and trust from each side of the table, thereby promoting equilibrium in labor-management relations, and assuring equitable distribution of the profits of industry.

I wish to congratulate the National Commission of Labor and Peasants on the occasion of its rebirth and to express the hope that its efforts may help towards the fulfillment of the need for a unified labor movement in the Philippines.

September 15, 1947

PEDRO MAGSALIN
Secretary of Labor

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THE NATIONAL COMMISSION OF LABOR AND PEASANTS

(A BRIEF HISTORICAL SKETCH)

For several years prior to 1939, labor leaders in the Philippines had the common desire to have their respective labor unions grouped together under one national organization, with a view to presenting a united front in their effort to secure concessions for their members in the employ of commercial and industrial establishments in the Islands. Accordingly, several attempts were made at consolidating all existing labor unions under one federation after another, but for reasons that need not be enumerated here, all such efforts failed.

Some time in May, 1939, however, the late President Manuel L. Quezon appointed former Senator Jose Avelino as Secretary of Labor. At long last labor leaders throughout the country

felt that one of their kind was deemed fit by the President of the Commonwealth to occupy a cabinet post. Secretary Avelino, they know, was at one time president of a labor union in Samar; they were positive that, having been a labor leader himself, the new cabinet man would be instrumental in bringing about the realization of the program of the administration respecting Social Justice.

The expectation of organized labor in this country was immediately rewarded. On the very day that he assumed his duties in the Department of Labor, Secretary Avelino sent an invitation to all prominent labor leaders for a conference in his office, which was promptly accepted. At that time, the existing labor unions



Late Pres. Quezon is shown above cutting ribbon signalling the opening of the Farmers' and Labor Jubilee under the auspices of the National Commission of Labor and Peasants last 1939. Also shown in the picture are Senate Pres. Avelino then Sec. of Labor and Chairman ex-Officio of the NCLP and Hon. Jose Figueras, adviser of the NCLP.

were already for the most part unified into three formidable labor groups. The so-called conservative unions were affiliated with the Congreso Obrero — National Federation of Labor (conservative wing) group headed by the late Segundo Ramos; while the progressive organizations were grouped under the Collective Labor Movement (CLM) headed by Jose M. Nava. The third group, otherwise known as the liberal group, consisted of unions affiliated with the National Federation of Labor (progressive wing) — Confederated Workers Alliance (CWA) combination under the leadership of Angel Marin and Artemio Nabor.

The conference thus called was held two or three days afterwards. Explaining his purpose in calling the meeting of labor leaders, the new Secretary of Labor made it clear that labor unity must be maintained, if the labor movement in the Philippines must achieve its objectives. Convincing of his sincerity, the representatives of the three labor groups above-mentioned agreed to form the National Commission of Labor as a supreme national entity of labor organizations, wherein each group would be represented by ten members. In another conference that took place shortly thereafter, the Commission adopted a charter, and elected Secretary of Labor Avelino its Chairman ex-oficio, with Artemio Nabor as Executive Secretary of said Commission.

Representing the conservative group in the newly organized labor commission were Segundo Ramos (deceased), Aurelio Intertas, Mariano Ubaldo, Pedro Fernandez, Floro Buenconsejo, Simeon S. Ringor, Eugenio Arrogante, Nicolas Cruz, and two others. The liberal group was represented by Angel Marin, Artemio Nabor, Jose I. Baluyot, Gregorio Pineda (deceased), Jacinto Salazar, Felix Verces (deceased), Felicisimo Lauzon, Filomeno Prudon, Jose Robles Jr. and Pedro J. Velazco; while the progressive group had for its representatives Jose M. Nava, Antonio D. Paguia, Luis Taruc, Guillermo Capadocia, Isabela Tejada (deceased), Manuel Joven, Pedro C. Castro, Ildefonso K. Romey, Jose Ilagan and Dionisio Cifra (deceased).

On the 5th of the following month, the National Commission of Labor was pompously inaugurated. In the morning of that day a huge labor rally took place at the Manila Grand Opera House, with the then First Lady of the Land, Doña Aurora A. Quezon, unfurling the flag of the Commission. In the afternoon, a labor unity parade and demonstration took place. Starting from the Manila Grand Opera House,

the paraders marched towards the Luneta. As the guest of honor of the occasion, the late President Quezon addressed a crowd of close to a quarter of a million working people of Manila and nearby provinces. It was the largest labor gathering in the Philippines ever to be held to that date.

For the first time in our history, labor unity was achieved, Secretary of Labor Avelino, accomplished a chief objective. The late President Quezon was elated at the thought that a favorite dream of his had become a reality itself. The working masses throughout the Philippines then rejoiced.

About the middle of July of 1939, a National Commission of Peasants was likewise organized as a sister organization to the National Commission of Labor; again, with the Secretary of Labor as Chairman ex-oficio. The late Juan Feleo was chosen Executive Secretary of the new commission, with Jacinto Manahan (deceased), Mateo del Castillo, Jesus M. Nava, Fernando E. Samaniego, Tomas T. Tirona, Artemio Caballes, Arcadio Roxas, Teodulo Cruz, Casto Alejandrino, Felixberto Yumul (deceased), Florentino Tecson, Manuel Palacios, Valenzuela and other leading peasant leaders among its members. The peasants' commission was inaugurated in Cabanatuan, Nueva Ecija about the month of August of the same year. In identical ways, organized peasantry was thus unified.

With both labor and peasant unity achieved, the Social Justice policy of the late President Quezon's administration had the full support of organized labor and peasantry in the Philippines. A progressive era in management-labor relations was given a good start. We were then headed towards industrial peace.

Ring the latter part of 1940, however, Secretary of Labor Avelino was relieved of his duties in the Department of Labor and appointed Secretary of Public Works and Communications. Fortunately enough, he was succeeded by a new Secretary of Labor, the Honorable Leon Guinto, who turned out to be equally friendly to labor, but then he felt that it was time for the Secretary of Labor to withdraw from the chairmanship of the two commissions. Consequently, Aurelio Intertas and Felicisimo Lauzon were designated Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively of both the National Commission of Labor and National Commission of Peasants, with Artemio Nabor continuing as the Executive Secretary of both commissions.

Up to the start of World War II in the Phil-



Senate Pres. Avelino, then Sec. of Labor, is shown above receiving the historical Kam-pilan gift from Moro labor delegation headed by labor leader Jose M. Nava, Supreme Head of the powerful Federation Obrera de Filipinas.

ippines, the two commissions were engaged in various activities to promote the material, social and moral well-being of its members, as well as of unorganized labor and peasantry in the Islands. Representatives of both the commissions of labor and peasants made trips to industrial centers and rural communities to make a survey of working and living conditions then obtaining in many localities; and thereafter, recommended the passage of legislation that would ameliorate the lot of the working masses. Under the management of the then Inspector General of Labor Jose Figueras, a Farmer-Labor Jubilee was held in Manila to celebrate the first

anniversary of labor unity in this country. With the activities of labor and peasant organizations efficiently coordinated and correlated, workers and peasants easily obtained liberal concessions from their employers or their landlords.

At the outbreak of the war, the two commissions saw to it that all labor and peasant organizations in the Philippines were converted into labor battalions, farmers' battalions and bolo battalions, which functioned under the Civilian Emergency Administration until the occupation of the Islands by the Japanese Imperial Forces, when said organizations went underground and became guerrilla units.

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MESSAGE TO PHILIPPINE LABOR

By V. MADRIGAL

My greetings to you on this memorable occasion are not a vain expression of feelings. They spring from the bottom of my heart. It is my candid belief that in peace and in war the so called laboring class does constitute the inexhaustible reservoir of productive and creative energies from which the nation draws her revitalizing forces. Over your shoulders mainly lies the expeditious and prompt rehabilitation of our devastated cities and towns, on your willingness and determination to do your share shall a great deal depend the progress, welfare and lasting happiness of our people.

Having come from the ranks and file of the humble and lowly; having been one of you, I am in a singular position to know your feelings; hence, I cannot but feel the most profound sympathy for the yearnings of your hearts. The days of heartless and soulless exploitation of man by man are over, the merciless crucifixion of human values on the cross of gold or silver has no place in the world of today. The socio-economic factors, "capital and labor," should be treated as the instrumentalities of man for his perfection, for his happiness, for the realization of his mission in this world; the means to an end, not the end itself. Man should remain the master of both. The tendency to confuse the instrumentality with the principal, the means with the end, is responsible for the many evils that have visited mankind; it has frithfully and fatefully divided the peoples of the earth; it has sown the seeds of prejudice, of antagonism, nay of hatred amongst those who, with a better understanding of their rights and of their sublime mission, should at all times feel closely united by the bonds of Christian brotherhood.



MR. V. MADRIGAL

There is and there should always be an unmistakable boundary line between the BEAST, the unfeeling brute, and the MAN, the most beautiful expression of God's wisdom and power. In a social and economic structure wherein certain groups of society are condemned to a life unworthy of man's original birth as the king of all creatures, wherein he is denied those blessings and prerogatives that distinguish him from the lower creatures there certainly must be a fundamental fault or mistake either in its basic organization or in its operation.

I believe in the right of every man to equal opportunity in the enjoyment of the goods of the earth. I shall strive to make of the control of the means of production by any man or groups of men a medium for the realization of such ideal, rather than a mere opportunity for gain or wealth accumulation.

THE U.O.E.F.--ITS TRAVALS AND STRUGGLES

In the history of the labor movement in the Philippines, the year of 1917 stands out as the starting epoch of militant trade unionism in this country. That year marked the birth of organized labor — the dawn of the working man's new awareness and a deep consciousness of its inherent rights and prerogatives under the actual set-up of a democratic regime.

The Union de Obreros Estivadores de Filipinas may be said to have been given birth dur-

herents giving it added vigor and personality. As a consequence of the initial strike its members staged, a better wage scale was approved by their employers wherein ordinary laborers who used to receive ₱1.25 a day were already paid ₱2.00 while those capataces receiving ₱4.00 a day received ₱5.00, an increase of about 20 per cent of their original wages.

Thus for the first time in labor's history in our country our working masses had literally ex-



Mrs. Aurora Quezon is shown above receiving from Mr. Pedro Fernandez, Gen. Sec., and Mr. Aurelio Intertas, Gen. Vice Pres. of the UOEF, the contribution of the stevedores to the National Philippine Red Cross in last year's fund drive in the amount of ₱10,200.00.

ing that year of 1917. On August 15th of that year, a small labor group under the able leadership of Mariano Ubaldo, Engracio Bernardo, Gregorio Herrera, Rafael Nueva and Alberto Reyes had succeeded in carrying out their demands for increased wages and for the recognition by their employers of their labor agrupation as a representative body which was eventually named the Union de Obreros Estivadores de Filipinas (UOEF).

A headquarters of the union was officially inaugurated when the organizers opened a modest office on Muelle de Binondo. Having won their initial victory over capital when they struck for the first time against their employers, the newly organized stevedores' union became more inspired and encouraged when it was reinforced with many new sympathizers and ad-

perienced a new lease in life in its valiant struggles for survival and they have become finally aware of a dawning era of emancipation from peonage and servility under a capitalist system of industrial monopoly.

Undoubtedly the dramatic world agitation going on among the working elements in other countries had inspired local labor leaders to assert their own people's legitimate role in the scheme of Philippine political and economic life. The surging Russian masses had revolted against their Tzar and against their aristocracy about that year and succeeded to overthrow the Emperor's absolute regime. Labor elements in America and Europe had about that time also launched a concerted drive to wrest essential prerogatives from their masters and employers and in demanding for increased wages, better

living conditions and shorter working hours. Hence, it was not surprising that such world agitation and reaction had also inspired local labor elements to work for their own uplift and wellbeing.

The founders and organizers of the UOEF have positively become very much alive to the trends of trade unionism sweeping over the democratic countries of the world. Thus, they also decided to expand and unite themselves together with other labor groups in the country under one potent leader-

the result of which was the recognition of the union as the only labor bargaining body by the employers and the granting of most of the demands contained in the petition of the strikers which precipitated the walkout. Undoubtedly this was another signal victory for the local working man.

On June 20, 1927, the Committee No. 2 under the presidency of Fruto S. Coching was organized. The longshoremen working on the docks and piers of Manila organized also another group which they named "Bisig Ng Pan-

Central Committee, U.O.E.F.

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AURELIO S. INTERTAS	Gen. Vice-President
PEDRO FERNANDEZ	Gen. Secretary
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ship. First to be fused and merged with the original organization was the "Panay Bagong Lakas" group which was renamed Committee No. 1 of the UOEF. This fusion marked the first step in Philippine labor's drive for unification and solidarity.

Then in May of 1927, due to oppressive abuses committed by capataxes employed by their employers, the Simmie and Grill (now the Luzon Stevedoring Co.), a group of stevedores called "Traffic" working under the same company finally decided to declare a strike asking for increased wages and better treatment and the elimination of abusive capataxes from the company's employ. The leaders of this new walkout were Pedro Fernandez, Rodolfo Castro, Amado Baluyot (deceased) Emilio Aquino, Pablo Pelavo and several others. The strike lasted for 15 days when the employers finally sought to hold a conference with the labor leaders,

"alan" which later was renamed Committee No. 4 affiliated with the UOEF under the presidency of Silverio Ventura and Jesus Salazar. In 1938 another group of workers in the port of Manila called "May Pagkakaisa" was also organized, and this is the present Committee No. 3 of the seamen's organization under the presidency of Justino Balano.

When war broke out in 1941, practically all the leaders and members of the UOEF were inducted into the labor battallions organized by the government. Upon the occupation of Manila by the Japanese a great number of the labor battallion legions had united themselves as a guerrilla unit and had sent their fighting outfit to the mountains to conduct resistance activities against the enemy. Others remained in the city for the purpose of serving as intelligence operatives and contact units with the forces in the mountains. Most decidedly the labor battallions



Picture above shows the guests and officials of the UOEFL at a banquet on the occasion of the unfolding of the flag of the union given at the Selecta, with the First Lady of the Land, Mrs. Roxas, as maidma.

Gen. Gen. Pedro Fernandez is shown at the mike delivering a speech. Others in the photo are from left to right: Vicente Cabrera, Nicolas Cruz, ex-Chief Javalera, Mariano Ubaldo, Mrs. Roxas, Mrs. Jose Figueras, Mrs. Pecson, and others.

guerilla outfit had served the allied cause creditably by effectively harrassing the enemy, destroying enemy lines of communications and ambushing Jap patrols upon every opportunity during the hectic days of the occupation.

When the American forces of liberation of Gen. MacArthur took back Manila from the hands of the Japanese after a bitter house-to-house and street-by-street fighting, the U. S. Army had occupied the piers of the city and started its reconstruction while at the same time utilizing these for the U. S. navy's use and as depot for supplies of the U. S. forces. Hence a call for workers was sounded and forthwith, with varied activities and projects at the wharves waiting for personnel, practically most of the pre-war waterfront workers and stevedores volunteered to work under the charge of the U. S. Army. It had even become necessary for the army to take in additional laborers from the provinces to undertake the voluminous and seemingly endless work on the piers of Manila. War was then practically going on. Then everything seemed going on smoothly. But when the surrender of the enemy was later announced the Army authorities began laying off workers, at the same time cutting down on their wages and rations.

Hence the local labor group began to feel the threatening unemployment for a great number of them and of the impending dislocation of their economic security. Thus again labor sought

council among themselves and with the leaders of the UOEFL having reorganized themselves into a militant organization with sufficient force enough, they had decided to call a strike against the Army which was employing them. This strike was regarded as the biggest walkout ever staged in this country by local unions, involving from 80 per cent to 90 per cent of the dock workers population.

The stevedoring union held tight together in demanding from the Commanding General of the U. S. Army for increased wages, and assurances of permanent employment, particularly at that time when commodity prices and the standard of living in the city was soaring sky high and housing had become a most serious and costly affair for the city people.

The petition of the striking stevedores were evidently given full consideration by the Commanding General. For after two weeks of negotiation the Army authorities acceded to the demands of the strikers, giving 50 per cent increase in their wages, both skilled and unskilled labor. Thus, post-war labor again won a signal triumph for being able to secure favorable concessions from their employers, making effective use of strike as an inherent right and prerogative.

One significant repercussion as the outcome of that strike staged by the local stevedores
(Continued on page 24)

FERNANDO LOPEZ— FRIEND OF THE MASSES

There are rare instances where we find people from the upper strata of society—millionaires and aristocrats—identifying themselves closely and wholeheartedly with the downtrodden masses, with the unfortunate and forgotten legions, and have endeared themselves in the hearts of these underprivileged. It cannot be denied that here in our country the caste system of society still persists governing the relations among our different classes of people.

Down in the southern metropolis that is Iloilo City a youthful business executive and financial tycoon belonging to the fabulously rich Lopez family by the name of Fernando Lopez has become too well known as friend of the poor and the laboring masses. His fame as such champion of the poor and underprivileged has literally reached the four corners of the archipelago so that President Manuel Roxas, the leader of our people who is continually in search of trusted leaders and public officials to assist him in the national endeavor of reconstruction and rehabilitation of our prostrate country has realized in this youthful leader a great possibility for leadership and so had asked him to become one of the official standard bearers of the Liberal Party for senators.

Don Fernando Lopez had been serving for nearly two years already as Mayor of Iloilo City, in which position he had endeared himself to the masses and to the different elements of the community not in the city alone but throughout the province itself. His record as chief executive of that city is eloquent proof of his deep concern and abiding faith in the common man. He had devoted himself to their welfare and uplift, sacrificing his energy, his wealth and his talents for their wellbeing. Every well-informed Ilongo in the famed "Queen City of the South" can attest to the fact that during nearly two years that Nanding Lopez had been mayor of that city he had practically not received any financial compensation for his services because all money he was supposed to receive were either given as direct help to indigents and needy people daily begging for monetary assistance from him or were contributed to charity and other civic enterprises of the community.

The only consolation Mayor Lopez, the people's candidate now for senator, received for his



MR. FERNANDO LOPEZ

services to the poor is their undying love and devotion and steadfast loyalty. This fact Mayor Lopez enshrine deeply in his heart. And even his once political critics and bitter enemies can attest to this benevolence and deep-rooted understanding of his for the miseries and needs of the downtrodden people whom others in his place would regard as scums of the earth.

As candidate for senator, Mayor Lopez is expected to win a great majority of votes. Judged by his qualifications and honesty, Mayor Lopez deserves the vote of the nation as senator. He is an able lawyer, a successful business executive, a respected newspaper publisher, an expert agriculturist being owners of sugar haciendas, pioneer transportation magnate and a renowned philanthropist.

He was born on April 13, 1904 in Jaro, Iloilo, son of former governor Benito Lopez of that province. Together with his brother, Don Eugenio, he studied at the San Juan de Letran and later finished law at the University of Santo Tomas, finishing it in 1925. That same year he passed the bar.

Upon his return from an extensive travel
(Continued on page 23)

PRIMITIVO LOVINA — MAN OF THE PEOPLE

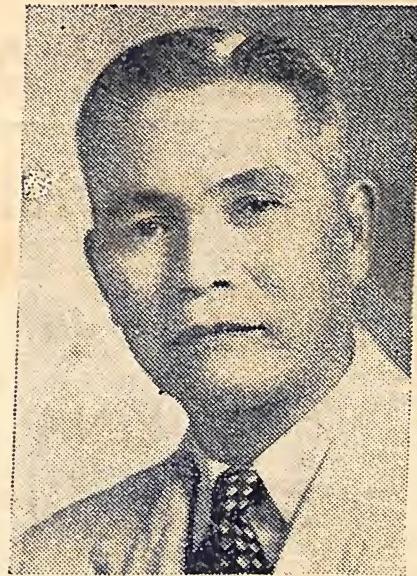
Primitivo Lovina, former Chairman of the Board of Governors, brought the RFC close to the people through a progressive policy and attitude. He is now candidate for senator, and when elected, the people can feel assured that he will take the initiative in all legislations that will promote the general welfare of the people and speed up rehabilitation of the national economy.

The record of the RFC speaks well for the able administration of Primitivo Lovina of the said financial institution. Up to July 31, 1947, the RFC has granted loans to 99 industrial establishments, 821 farmers, 1,257 homebuilders, and 11 government loans for self-liquidating projects. The financing of these projects by the RFC has gained significance because of their social and economic implications. The loans thus granted have created jobs which afforded gainful occupations for no less than 50,000 laborers. Considering that a wage earner has an average of four dependents, this means a livelihood to about 250,000 individuals; and there is no question that these 250,000 individuals are imbued with some feelings of social security, which is conducive to peace and contentment. As the RFC broadens its activities, these benefits will become more widespread and far-reaching.

Candidate Lovina is a recognized leader in the world of finance and we need him in the halls of congress to help shape our financial policies and legislation, of which we are badly in need. The government must take seriously the financial aspect of our national life, because the success of the Republic is entirely dependent on the financial success of the government enterprise and administration. It is obvious that the government cannot carry on its program of construction and rehabilitation, and relief without money. But it does not mean heavy taxation. It only means wise financial policies and good pieces of legislation to carry on government enterprises and sources of revenues and to help the people produce and make a living. Once the general public is productive and employed, government financing will not be a problem.

Sound government finance means sound citizenry finance. For the government is nothing more but the agency of the people. If the principal is bankrupt, so is the agent. But in this particular instance, the agent can help in making the principal financially sound, because of the authority the agent carries in the mandate of the people through the ballot.

It is for this reason that a man like Primitivo Lovina will be useful in the senate of the Phil-



MR. PRIMITIVO LOVINA

ippines.

Lovina, besides being a recognized leader in the world of finance is also a friend of labor, as he worked his way up. He has not separated himself apart from the people.

He hails from Rizal City, and the political idol of his province. Already he is gaining popularity altho this is the first time that he has entered politics actively.

Success is not measured by the money we can accumulate but by the friends we make. If we consider this as a measure of one's success, then candidate Lovina can also be considered a successful man. It is true he is a success from the money side but the man Lovina does not look upon it as the last measure of his life. Incidentally, he makes money, but he is devoted likewise to the service of his people.

The support that the labor elements is extending to Lovina, is not because of his money but because of his interest in the welfare of labor, for money cannot buy everything, more particularly the interest and welfare of the people.

Let us give Primitivo Lovina a chance to serve the people, and more particularly the interest of labor. With his influence and financial backing he can best serve our interest than a senator who is likely be tempted to sell his conviction because he is in want.

Life is a give and take process. Let us give Lovina our support and he will give us his support.

LIBERAL PARTY

Official Candidates

for Senators

P. LOVINA	V. MADRIGAL
G. PECSON	F. LOPEZ
E. TIRONA	L. TAÑADA
P. A. DAVID	C. TAN

for Members of the City Council
(Manila)

A. Santamaria	E. Balagtas
S. Agustin	J. Phodaca
P. Arenas	S. Marino
A. Bautista	G. Garcia
I. Santiago	J. Villareal

A DESERVED PROMOTION

The elevation of DELFIN BUENCAMINO to the chairmanship of the board of governors of the RFC is a tribute to the character of the man as well as a deserved promotion on the part of the employee, who has devoted the best of his life to public service.

The government can retain good and honest men in the government service by elevating to positions of responsibility those who have shown faithfulness and efficiency in the performance of their duties.

Time and again, this question of merit has been brought to the public but seldom, if ever, has it been attended to for the obvious reason of politics. But if the government, and the administration in particular desires to retain men of tested ability and honesty to stay in the public service, then it is about time for the administration to appoint to public office men who deserve them and not because they have been faithful political followers.

The case of the present chairman of the RFC is in point, for Mr. DELFIN BUENCA-MINO has been in the government service for many years and he is considered one of the best in his line.

Together with candidate Primitivo Lovina, they organized the RFC until today it is one of the government institutions instrumental in the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the country. Now that Mr. Lovina has resigned, the full responsibility of serving the country through the RFC falls on the shoulder of Mr. Delfin Buencamino who rose from the ranks to his present position.

Mr. Buencamino is not only wellknown in the financial world but also in all other walks of life wherein he can contribute his share in the growth and development of the country.

Mr. Buencamino was first connected with the Philippine National Bank, and it was there that his ability for administration and planning was first demonstrated. For it said that you cannot hide brilliance just as the sun cannot be hidden even by a thick cloud.

The RFC is doing in no small measure the great task of giving life to our people in the field of finance, and such efforts can only be accomplished if its management is placed in the hands of able men. The President is aware of this, and that is why in the absence of candidate Primitivo Lovina, Mr. Delfin Buencamino was ap-



MR. DELFIN BUENCAMINO
Acting Chairman R. F. C.

pointed in his place.

The RFC has contributed in a large measure to the solution of the unemployment problem during the first seven months of its existence. Every phase of financing undertaken by the RFC, whether in the form of industrial loan, agricultural loan, home-building loan or loan to a local government, contributed directly or indirectly to the welfare of the laborers and their dependents.

The direction of this giant enterprise is now in the hands of Mr. Delfin Buencamino. But by himself, he will not succeed. His success will be dependent upon public cooperation. Let us give him a hand and he will do his part.

Public cooperation can be best shown by not belittling the task of the RFC, for it is to be admitted that being administered by men, it has its own shortcomings. And for that matter all undertakings run by men have defects. But the defects can be remedied if the public will do its part.

It is therefore requested that public cooperation be extended to the RFC. Any complaints can be directed to the Chairman, Mr. Delfin Buencamino, and we are sure he is just too ready to remedy and attend to any complaint from the general public.

The RFC is for the people, let therefore the people do its part in its success.

*Greetings to all
Delegates of the*
**NATIONAL COMMISSION
of LABOR and PEASANTS**



**NATIONAL RICE AND
CORN CORPORATION**

MANILA, PHILIPPINES

THE NVP AND PUBLIC SERVICE

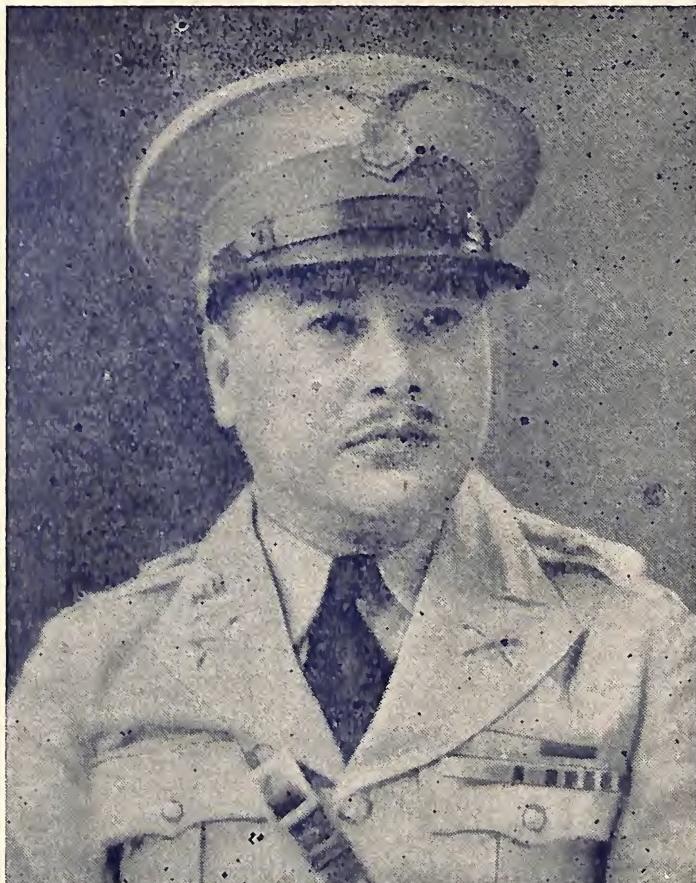
By Brig. Gen. JUSTO CABO CHAN

The National Volunteers of the Philippines is one of the established institutions in the country primarily dedicated to public service. Since its organization in 1932 and subsequent incorporation under the laws of the Philippines, it has rendered inestimable service to the government and to the people, both in time of peace and in time of war. Civic-military in its nature, it has lived up to its patriotic ideals and purposes as embodied in its Constitution.

It will be noted that the dominant characteristic of the organization that attracts the best elements in the country is the fact that each member is sworn to support and defend the Constitution of the Republic. Thus, in the past, when the Sakdal uprising took place in nearby provinces, the members were mobilized and placed on alert duty 24 hours a day, guarding bridges, power plants, communication centers, and other strategic places. At all times whenever fires, earthquakes, inundations or other calamities occurred, the members were always present to give a helping hand.

When the Pacific War suddenly broke out in 1941, all available units of the organization were mobilized for instant service. Simultaneously, negotiations were made with the Military authorities for the acceptance of at least one Division of our men. Although the plan did not materialize due to lack of time and the withdrawal of the United States Armed Forces to Bataan and Corregidor, the members went ahead and served the government in different capacities, even without compensation. General Timoteo Certeza and the writer placed at the command of then Chief of Police Antonio C. Torres 600 strong for service as auxiliary police in Manila and suburbs at the height of the enemy bombings. Throughout the enemy occupation, thousands upon thousands of our members served faithfully and effectively in the underground resistance work.

In this postwar period, the National Volunteers organization, true to its tradition of rendering public service whenever and wherever needed, has pledged itself and all the resources at its command to an all-out aid and effective support to the government especially in the establishment and maintenance of peace and order. We have a standing voluntary offer of 10,000 trained men to the Secretary of National Defense for the purpose.



Brig. Gen. JUSTO CABO CHAN
Deputy National Commander

The Volunteers participate in every way they can in the big task of clearing the way to national recovery.

The National Volunteers of the Philippines, since the inception of its public career, has never asked for help from the government or from other entities. Moreover, when the members serve the public they do so voluntarily and without thought of money compensation or other considerations. There is a spirit of camaraderie among the members and they help each other mutually in time of need. With their civic and military training, they become good citizens in time of peace and dependable soldiers in time of war. The cardinal virtues in which the members are indoctrinated are Honor, Patriotism, Loyalty and devotion to Duty. Upon the Volunteers, with all dignity and their standard of public service, lie indeed the future strength and greatness of our Republic.

**Greetings to all Delegates
of the National Commission
of Labor & Peasants**

SHIPPING COMMISSION

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- „ Capt. Enrique Razon
- „ Felipe Cuaderno
- „ Vicente Manalo

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LIST OF LABOR ORGANIZATION

REGISTERED UNDER C. A. 213
CITY OF MANILA

1. Mine and Labor Union of the Phil.
 2. Philippine Federation of Marine and Labor Contractor
 3. Phil. Communications Workers Union
 4. Phil.-Hawaii-America Labor Union, Inc.
 5. Philippine Workers' Sailors Union
 6. United Labor Union
 7. Union de Maquinistas, Fogoneros y Ayudantes
 8. Courier Employees' Union
 9. Union de Empleados de Trenes
 10. Employees' Workers Union
 11. National Workers Brotherhood
 12. Samahang L. B. Co.
 13. United Employees Welfare Ass'n.
 14. Federation del Trabajo de Filipinas
 15. International Marine and Labor Union
 16. La Estrella del Norte Employees Ass'n.
 17. Kaisahan nang mga Manggagawa sa Metropolitan Water District
 18. Coast Pacific Seaman Union
 19. Filipino Working Men
 20. Public Utilities Employees Ass'n.
 21. Trade Service Union
 22. National Labor Union
 23. Manila Trading Labor Association
 24. C. C. P. S. Employees and Labor Ass'n.
 25. Employees' Guild
 26. Araw ng Magsasaka sa Filipinas
 27. Filipino Labor Union
 28. Manila Railroad Employees Union
 29. Sanitary Steam Laundry Workers' Union
 30. Bagong Pagkakaisa (B. T. C.)
 31. Congress of Labor Organization
 32. Union de Despachadores de Filipinas
 33. Universal Marine Labor Union
 34. Philippine Legion of Organized Workers
 35. National Textile Workers Union of the Philippines
 36. Pacific Workers Association
 37. Manila Construction Workers Union
 39. Filipino Musicians Union
 40. Union de Empresores de Filipinas
 41. Liberal Union of Pastranco Employees
 42. Luzon Labor Union
 43. Philippine Sheet Metal Workers Union
 44. Everett Steamship Employees Ass'n.
 45. International Harvester Co. Workers Union
 46. Phil. Stewards, Cooks and Messboy of the Philippines
 47. Liberal Labor Union
 48. Kaisahan ng Marino at Manggagawa sa Daungan sa Filipinas
 49. Samariños Labor and Construction Ass'n.
 50. Philippine Refining Workers Union
 51. Central Vegetable Oil Workers Union
 52. Shell Craft Buttons Workers Union
 53. Kapisanan ng mga Manggagawa sa Industrial ng Tabako sa Filipinas
 54. Pangbansang Kapatiran ng mga Panadero at Dulcero
 55. Aristocrat Waiters Association
 56. Bataan Motor Workers' Union—CLO
 57. United Motor Workers' Union—PCLO
 58. Rattan Arts and Decorations Workers' Union
 59. Elizalde Employees Association
 60. Robles' Transportation Workers Union
 61. Elizalde Motor Workers Union
 62. Phil. Stevedores and Laborers Union
 63. Phil. Mfg. Co. Employees Mutual Ass'n.
 64. Hume Pipe and Asbestos Workers Union
 65. United Employess Welfare Association
 66. Philfarmco & Ramiro Rapid Transportation Workers Union—CLO
- CITY OF ILOILO
1. Consolidated Labor Union
 2. Federation Obrera de Filipinas
 3. Panay Labor Union
 4. Philippine Laborers & Farmers Ass'n.
 5. Union de Marineros de Iloilo
 6. Seafarers' Union
 7. Republican Allied Federation
 8. Katilimbang Sang Inanak Sang Pangabud-lav sa Filipinas
 9. Tigbatas Association
 10. Philippine Labor Union of the Vets.
 11. Democratic Peasants Union
 12. Labor Union of the Veterans
- CEBU CITY
1. Liberal Labor Union
 2. United Cebu Autobus & Transit Employees Association
 3. Cebu Stevedores Association
 4. Ang Katubusan sa mga Namumuo
- OTHER CITIES
1. Southern Luzon Employees Ass'n.
 2. Allied Workers Association of the Philippines
 3. Cebu Branch (U. O. E. F.)
 4. Republic Labor Union
 5. Davao Light Employees Association
 6. Allied Workers' Ass'n. of the Philippines Bacolod-Murcia Central Chapter
 7. United Mine Workers' of the Phil.

FERNANDO LOPEZ--FRIEND OF THE MASSES

(Continued from page 14)

abroad after his graduation, he and his brother engaged themselves in the newspaper publishing business and later in transportation business. They opened up the Iloilo Transportation Company and later bought the Panay Autobus Company, one of the biggest transportation firms in the Philippines. Then they organized the INAEC in 1933 and operated this until the outbreak of the war. After liberation they again resumed their business and organized the FEATI, serving as pioneer air transport firm in the country which later was purchased by the Philippine Air Lines controlled by the government. They are still stockholders of this air transport firm.

All his employees are insured at the expense of the enterprise.

In his travels around the world he gained broad views and sound economic ideas. He introduced reforms during his administration as Mayor of the City of Iloilo. When goods were sold at black market price in many parts of the Philippines, Mr. Lopez succeeded in reducing to the minimum the prices of commodities in the City of Iloilo.

Knowing personally the subversive elements in Iloilo after the Liberation, he was able to maintain peace and order at the time when chaotic conditions existed in the other parts of the world.

To minimize crimes committed by minors, and to solve the problem of delinquency during the most troublesome period of our history, Mr. Lopez created the "BOYS TOWN" where children were taught the civilized ways of life.

To help the government and the people to spread popular education he established last July, at his own expense, the Iloilo City Colleges, one of the most progressive institutions of learning in the country. With an enrollment of 3500 students at the start, Mr. Lopez earns the distinction of being the organizer of the biggest private Colleges in the Philippines during the first year of its existence.

Mr. Lopez is truly, a very generous man, sympathetic and understanding to the needs of the people. While reluctant to engage in politics, yet he could not resist the call of public service because the people are convinced that he could truly render immense good to the country. He is cognizant of the needs of our country and because of these it is to be expected that he could accomplish much in helping the government achieve the solutions for the vast problems of reconstruction and rehabilitation of our war-ravaged country.

* * *

WE ARE FOR



JOSE R. EDIS

Lawyer-Writer-Newspaperman

for

CITY COUNCILOR
(MANILA)

"From houseboy, ordinary laborer, street vendor, teacher, agent, government employee, etc., to lawyer" is brief summary of Atty. EDIS' life.

*TO GIVE HIM A CHANGE IS TO
MAKE OUR DEMOCRACY REAL*

THE U.O.E.F.—ITS TRAVALS AND STRUGGLES

(Continued from page 13)

union was that it focussed attention of the world's laborites to the Philippine front. Not only local unions in the country were benefited by that success but that U. S. labor groups took keen interest with the local unions by sending their representatives here to help local units in their fight against unreasonable and stringent capitalist. The CIO (Congress of Industrial Organizations) and the AFL (American Federation of Labor) sent representatives here to boost the prestige and power of labor.

Since then the local stevedoring union had expanded and branched out even to the provinces. For the next to organize and affiliate with the Union were checkers in the Manila harbor which was named Committee No. 5 under the presidency of Pablo Ruiz. Committee No. 6 composed of watchmen detailed at the waterfront and at storehouses and bodegas was also organized under the presidency of Johnny Montgomery. Under the presidency of Luis Señá another branch union in Batangas was also organized and this was consequently named Committee No. 7. The branch organization in Cebu was named Committee No. 8 under the presidency of E. Arrogante.

The other affiliated union groups with the UOEF were the Committee No. 9 composed of crews of all lighters and launches docking in Manila under the presidents of Adriano Yradier, Committee No. 10 in Castañas, Quezon province under the presidency of Juanito Villa-real, Committee No. 11, in Sta. Mesa Slipways under the presidency of J. Alcantara, Committee No. 12 in Atimonan, Quezon province under Segundo Ortega, and Committee No. 13 in Aparri, Cagayan, under Julian Hontiveros.

Due to high living cost and the rise of commodity prices another threat of a strike was called by the union the following year in view of the low wages received by the laborers compared with the living standards prevailing. The threatened strike was undeniably to be large scale, where the Luzon Stevedoring Company, the government and various local steamship companies were involved, but to forestall the neck in the reconstruction and rehabilitation program of the government, all heads of the shipping firms, the stevedoring company and government representatives met on many occasions to deliberate on the demands of the laborers. The petition was submitted by Pedro Fer-

nandez in behalf of the central committee of the UOEF. Finally they acceded to the demands of the Union.

As a result of this the laborers practically got a raise in wages up to 200 per cent of their former earnings, and 150 per cent extra compensation for overtime work beyond the 8-hour daily labor. Capataces earning ₱3.25 a day were thereafter paid ₱9.18; those workers receiving ₱2.75 got a raise of ₱7.56 a day; those earning ₱2.25 received ₱6.61 and so on. Thus under the new wage allocations, it could be stated that a new deal in social justice was given to the sons of toil and hard work.

But it had not been all agitation and striving for better wages that the UOEF union had espoused. This organization also assisted government agencies in such ways as to promote the people's welfare and their wellbeing. For these ends, in the appeal of the Red Cross last year for funds in order to carry out its extensive charity and public welfare activities, the UOEF was able to contribute ₱10,200.00 raised from among its members. This union also contributed ₱1,800.00 to local disabled war veterans drive for funds; ₱800.00 to help war widows and orphans and contributed another ₱1,000.00 for the Boy Scouts' fund drive.

During the recent Anti-Tuberculosis fund drive, the union members were able to purchase 700 tickets costing ₱2 each or a total of ₱1,400.00. The Union is also a regular patron of the YLAC, a charitable social organization among society debutantes in the city by contributing ₱500.00 yearly to its funds.

The historic struggles of that pioneer group of labor's champions for recognition have been amply rewarded, and today the organization they founded during that crucial year of 1917 has become a tremendous influence in our present body politic because out of a handful of men that constituted the original group it had grown into a vast labor union comprising upwards of 80,000 members.

In collaboration with other militant and vigilant labor organizations in different parts of the country, it is the fond expectation of the local stevedores union to be able to contribute in a large measure to the elevation of the plight of our workers and employees to reach a level as to become an essential and useful class in our democratic set-up of society.

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